WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming system comprising:

image forming means that forms an image relating to subject data on a recording medium having holding means that holds identification information specific to the recording medium;

detecting means that detects the identification information held by the holding means of the recording medium;

database means that, in accordance with an image forming operation for an image relating to desired subject data by the image forming means, stores first identification information, which is detected by the detecting means from the holding means of a first recording medium on which the image relating to the desired subject data is recorded, and the desired subject data in association with each other;

retrieving means that retrieves subject data corresponding to second identification information detected by the detecting means from plural subject data stored in the database means at a timing independent from the image forming operation for the image relating to the desired subject data; and

control means that controls, in accordance with a result of the retrieval by the retrieving means, the image forming means to form an image relating to

the subject data corresponding to the second identification information retrieved by the retrieving means on a second recording medium different from the first recording medium.

2. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing means that stores the plural subject data; and

selecting means that is capable of selecting the desired subject data from the plural subject data stored in the storing means.

3. A system according to claim 2, wherein at least a part of the image forming means, the detecting means, the storing means, the selecting means, the database means, and the retrieving means are connected via a network.

4. A system according to claim 1,

wherein the detecting means includes a first detection unit for detecting the first identification information and a second detection unit for detecting the second identification information, and

the first detection unit is provided in the vicinity of a moving path of the recording medium in the image forming operation, and the second detection

unit is provided at a position where the second detection unit can read out the second identification information in the case where the recording medium is brought close to the image forming means.

5. A system according to claim 4, wherein at least one of the first detection unit and the second detection unit detects identification information from the holding means of the recording medium in a non-contact manner.

6. A system according to claim 1, wherein the subject data includes image data.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the image forming means, the detecting means, the database means, and the retrieving means is connected via a network.

8. A system according to claim 1, wherein the database means further stores additional information, which is related to the image forming operation of the image of the subject data, in association with the subject data, and

the retrieving means retrieves the subject data corresponding to the additional information in the case where information identical with the additional

information is inputted at a timing independent from the image forming operation.

9. A system according to claim 8, wherein the additional information includes identification information of an apparatus and application software which executed the image forming operation for the image of the subject data.

10. A system according to claim 1, wherein the database means further stores, in accordance with the image forming operation for the image of the retrieved subject data by the image forming means, identification information, which is detected by the detecting means from the holding means of the second recording medium on which the image relating to the retrieved subject data is recorded, and the retrieved subject data in association with each other.

11. An image forming system comprising:

image forming means that forms an image relating to subject data on a recording medium having holding means that holds identification information specific to the recording medium;

detecting means that detects the identification information held by the holding means of an arbitrary recording medium on which an image is recorded; and

control means that acquires subject data corresponding to the identification information detected by the detecting means and controls the image forming means to form an image relating to the acquired subject data on the recording medium.

12. A system according to claim 11, wherein the control means includes retrieving means that retrieves the subject data corresponding to the identification information, which is detected by the detecting means, from plural subject data stored in storing means.

13. A system according to claim 11, wherein the detecting means detects identification information from the holding means in a non-contact manner.

14. A system according to claim 13, wherein the holding means includes an RFID tag.

15. A control apparatus which is used in an image forming system for forming an image with an image forming apparatus on a recording medium having holding means that holds identification information specific to the recording medium, the control apparatus comprising:

transmitting means that sends subject data to

the image forming apparatus in order to form an image on the recording medium;

database means that stores the subject data sent to the image forming apparatus and identification information of the recording medium on which an image is formed by the image forming apparatus on the basis of the subject data, in association with each other;

acquiring means that acquires identification information of an arbitrary recording medium; and

control means that reads out, from the database means among the subject data stored in the database means, subject data corresponding to the identification information acquired by the acquiring means, and controls the transmitting means to send the read-out subject data to the image forming apparatus.

16. A control apparatus which is used in an image forming system for forming an image with an image forming apparatus on a recording medium having holding means that holds identification information specific to the recording medium, the control apparatus comprising:

transmitting means that sends subject data to the image forming apparatus in order to form an image on the recording medium;

database means that stores the subject data sent to the image forming apparatus and identification information outputted from the image forming apparatus in accordance with an image forming operation conducted on the basis of the subject data, in association with each other; and

control means that reads out, from the database means among the subject data stored in the database means, subject data corresponding to the identification information outputted from the image forming apparatus at a timing independent from the image forming operation and acquired by the acquiring means, and controls the transmitting means to send the read-out subject data to the image forming apparatus.

17. An image forming apparatus which is used in an image forming system for forming an image corresponding to subject data sent from a control apparatus on a recording medium having holding means that holds identification information specific to the recording medium, the image forming apparatus comprising:

image forming means that forms an image on the recording medium;

detecting means that detects identification information from the holding means of the recording

medium;

transmitting means that, in order to cause the control apparatus to store, in accordance with an image forming operation for an image relating to desired subject data by the image forming means, first identification information, which is detected by the detecting means from the holding means of a first recording medium on which the image relating to the desired subject data is formed, and the desired subject data in association with each other, sends the first identification information to the control apparatus and sends second identification information, which is detected by the detecting means at a timing independent from the image forming operation of the image relating to the desired object, to the control device; and

receiving means that receives the subject data sent from the control device according to the second identification information sent by the transmitting means,

wherein the image forming means forms an image relating to the subject data received by the receiving means on another recording medium.

18. An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the detecting means detects the identification information from the holding means in a non-contact

manner.

19. An image forming method for an image forming system, comprising the steps of:

forming an image relating to subject data on a recording medium having holding means that holds identification information specific to the recording medium;

detecting the identification information held by the holding means of the recording medium;

storing, in accordance with an image forming operation for an image relating to desired subject data by the image forming means, first identification information, which is detected in the detecting step from the holding means of a first recording medium on which the image relating to the desired subject data is recorded, and the desired subject data in association with each other;

retrieving subject data corresponding to second identification information detected in the detecting step from plural subject data stored in the storing step at a timing independent from the image forming operation for the image relating to the desired subject data; and

controlling, in accordance with a result of the retrieval of the retrieving step, the image forming step to form an image relating to the subject data

corresponding to the second identification information retrieved in the retrieving step on a second recording medium different from the first recording medium.

20. A method according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

storing the plural subject data; and

selecting the desired subject data from the plural subject data stored in the subject data storing step.

21. A method according to claim 20, wherein at least one of the image forming step, the detecting step, the subject data step, the selecting step, the identification information storing step, and the retrieving step is executed via a network.

22. A method according to claim 19,

wherein the detecting step includes a first detection step of detecting the first identification information and a second detection step of detecting the second identification information, and

the first detection step is executed by a first detection unit provided in the vicinity of a moving path of the recording medium following the image forming operation, and the second detection step is

executed by a second detection unit provided at a position where the second detection unit can read out the second identification information in the case where the recording medium is brought close to the image forming means.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein at least one of the first detection step and the second detection step includes detecting identification information from the holding means of the recording medium in a non-contact manner.

24. A method according to claim 19, wherein the subject data includes image data.

25. A method according to claim 19, wherein at least one of the image forming step, the detecting step, the identification information storing step, and the retrieving step is executed via a network.

26. A method according to claim 19, wherein the identification information storing step includes storing additional information, which is related to the image forming operation for the image of the subject data, in association with the subject data, and

the retrieving step further includes retrieving

the subject data corresponding to the additional information in the case where information identical with the additional information is inputted at a timing independent from the image forming operation.

27. A method according to claim 26, wherein the additional information includes identification information of an apparatus and application software which executed the image forming operation for the image of the subject data.

28. A method according to claim 19, wherein the identification information storing step further includes storing, in accordance with the image forming operation for the image of the retrieved subject data in the image forming step, identification information, which is detected in the detecting step from the holding means of the second recording medium on which the image relating to the retrieved subject data is recorded, and the retrieved subject data in association with each other.

29. An image forming method for an image forming system, comprising the steps of:

forming an image relating to subject data on a recording medium having holding means that holds identification information specific to the recording

medium;

detecting the identification information held by the holding means of an arbitrary recording medium on which an image is recorded; and

acquiring subject data corresponding to the identification information detected in the detecting step and controlling the image forming step to form an image relating to the acquired subject data on the recording medium.

30. A method according to claim 29, wherein the control step includes retrieving the subject data corresponding to the identification information, which is detected in the detecting means, from plural subject data stored in the storing means.

31. A method according to claim 29, wherein the detecting step includes detecting identification information from the holding means in a non-contact manner.

32. A method according to claim 31, wherein the holding means includes an RFID tag.